

# FROM THE LAND

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## Sages Ravine Under Contract

Considered by many to be one of Salisbury's most sacred parcels of land, the land known as Sages Ravine is now permanently protected thanks to a sales contract recently signed by The Nature Conservancy. After lengthy negotiations, the Conservancy purchased a contract in late May which allows us to buy the 39 acre parcel at a bargain sale price of \$415,000. This land saving effort will be a cooperative project under Connecticut's Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program. The Connecticut Chapter, with the assistance of the Salisbury Association, now has until December 1, 1989 to raise its \$250,000 share of the project costs.

Sages Ravine, carved by glaciers, forms a perennial stream that flows easterly out of Connecticut's northwest corner along the Massachusetts and New York borders. It is fed by runoff from several mountains including Bear, Round, Gridley, Frissell, Ashley, and Plantain. This pristine stream is one of only a few in Connecticut which supports the slimy sculpin, a rare fish which can only survive in high quality water. In addition, the parcel provides an important forested wildlife corridor between the Bear Mountain region and the Schenob Brook marshes, a huge wetland complex that extends from Connecticut into Massachusetts, and is home to many rare species.

A portion of Sages Ravine is already protected by the National Park Service for the Appalachian Trail corridor. This new purchase, which also borders on Mount Riga State Park, will preserve the remainder of Sages Ravine and its pristine waters. Les Corey, Executive Director of the Connecticut

Chapter stated, "We are very excited about saving this unique natural area, which will protect the quality of life there for generations to come. We must step up to these opportunities to protect natural lands, as once lost, they can never be restored to their original richness".

In terms of the contract, the 39 acre property owned by Barry McMennamin, will initially be funded from The Nature Conservancy's revolving land preservation fund. These funds will then be reimbursed from four primary

sources: the Conservancy, the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Salisbury Association, and private donations. Dr. Mary Alice White, President of the Salisbury Association said, "The Land Trust is extremely pleased to see Sages Ravine protected, it is an important part of the great beauty in the northwest corner. We particularly appreciate the efforts of the neighbors in the area who have been so helpful in making

this bid for nature a tremendous success".

Once purchased, ownership of the property will be transferred to the DEP and the land will be managed as a natural preserve by the Salisbury Association. The Nature Conservancy will place deed restrictions on the transfer to guarantee that the land is truly, permanently saved in its wild state and protected from any inappropriate future use. This purchase is the sixth cooperative project between TNC and DEP, and the first made in conjunction with the Salisbury Association. (continued on page 3)





## Nature's Survival

I can vividly remember my first encounter with a hooded warbler while birding at East Rock Park in New Haven, and the rush of excitement I felt as a child stumbling upon a moccasin flower for the first time. Over the years, I've accumulated many indelible memories of nature. Each one has contributed meaning and understanding to my life and has helped revitalize my spirit. To fully value nature and commit to its preservation, one must come to know and experience it in some meaningful way.

There are some who may question The Nature Conservancy's mission of preserving biological diversity. Often, these individuals have had neither the training nor experiences with which to measure nature's importance in sustaining all life forms. For the skeptics among us, I offer the following arguments to dispel any doubts over our mission's critical importance.

Importantly, each one of the estimated 20 million species sharing planet Earth is uniquely different, representing eons of evolutionary design. Through no conscious effort of our own, humans have ended up on the evolutionary pinnacle of this pyramid of living organisms. With this position comes a beckoning call to global stewardship.

Our human intelligence, social nature, advanced manipulative powers, and technological achievements, have given us the ability to forever alter the fate of life on Earth. Above all else, I believe we have an ethical obligation to shepherd biological diversity forward into the future. If we squander Earth's species and the ecosystems which support them, nature's fragile network will unravel and ultimately, the human form will fail.

Through the preservation of species we assure ourselves a virtual supermarket of genetic products from which to draw upon to benefit the human race. Whether it be the genetic revitalization of an overly hybridized corn crop, no longer resistant to disease or insect attacks, or



offering a biochemical key to unlock the mysteries of a dreaded disease, we need all the pieces of the puzzle to complete the picture. No species, no matter how seemingly insignificant, should be extinguished due to human arrogance and greed.

From a purely aesthetic viewpoint, I find no other facet of my life which brings more meaning or provides more inspiration than my excursions into the wilderness.

With the rise of modern science and technology we have come to measure and seek meaning from nature in purely mathematical and theoretical terms. The result has been an ever widening gap between the study of science and the appreciation of nature. Through the preservation of species and their ecosystems we guarantee that future generations will be able to discover and experience the aesthetic value of nature. Experiences with nature are an essential contributing element towards a meaningful life. Through personal experiences and recognition of nature's worth we'll emerge a more caring and informed citizenry.

Harvard scholar E.O. Wilson once remarked, "The loss of genetic and species diversity is the folly for which our descendants will be least likely to forgive us."

To prevent this global tragedy, The Nature Conservancy, with your support, is working to save our world's most vital ecosystems and the species which they support. No cause is more urgent, no call to action more critical to nature's very survival.

— Leslie N. Corey, Jr.  
Executive Director

## Connecticut Chapter Receives Governor's Environment/2000 Award

Governor William A. O'Neill presented the Connecticut Chapter of The Nature Conservancy with an Environment/2000 Recognition Award for 1989. This award was given to the chapter as a way of publicly acknowledging the significant contribution the Conservancy has made towards achieving the goals and objectives of the Environment/2000 Plan.

Governor O'Neill praised the Conservancy for what he called "clear leadership in the area of land conservation and natural heritage preservation". He cited some of the more relevant projects of the Connecticut Chapter, for example; "the initiation of the Connecticut River Project, McKinney Wildlife Refuge, Cedar Island, and others".

In addition to the land protection achievements, the Governor also listed several other projects the Conservancy either initiated or had a hand in developing, like the CPTV documentary on endangered species, or, by helping to develop state policy by serving on many boards including the Department of Environment/2000 Advisory Board and the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Advisory Board. This is an important award for us to receive since it publicly recognizes the work we have been able to accomplish and gives us the kind of top-down support and credibility that will advance our cause among both members, and non-members alike. \*

*"The loss of genetic and species diversity is the folly for which our descendants will be least likely to forgive us." — E.O. Wilson*

# Glastonbury Highlands Wilderness

On Friday, June 30, 1989, The Nature Conservancy purchased the key Glastonbury Highlands Preserve acreage. The Chapter now has to raise the funds needed to complete the project, which has a bargain sale price of \$2,285,000.

The State of Connecticut, under the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program, voted a bond to cover \$1.5 million and the town of Glastonbury voted to put \$371,000 into the purchase. This leaves a large sum to be raised in private donations. The Nature Conservancy is paying the full \$2,285,000 out of its land preservation fund and will incur about \$20,000 of interest each month until the majority of the funding is accomplished.



## Sages Ravine (cont. from pg. 1)

Specifically, the DEP will provide approximately 50% of the purchase price through its Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program, Connecticut's \$15 million land acquisition program. The Land Trust Committee of the Salisbury Association has pledged \$50,000 in local matching funds towards the project, and the Conservancy must raise \$250,000 to cover its share of the project cost. Funds will be raised through private contributions from Conservancy members and friends of Sages Ravine.

The Conservancy is looking forward to the protection of this critical property and asks that any interested members who would like more information about Sages Ravine, and/or would like to make a donation, please contact Noreen Cullen, Director of Resources at the Connecticut Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. \*

Purchase Price	\$ 2,285,000
State of CT	- 1,500,000
Town of Glastonbury	- 371,000
Balance Due	\$ 529,000
Projected additional Public money	- 350,000
Cost on loan from LPF +	120,000
Projected private funds needed on other lands +	201,000
Total Needed from Private Fundraising	\$ 500,000

Although this price is high (because the cost of land in Glastonbury is high and because the 166 acres contained a newly approved subdivision) it was unthinkable to us that we could stand by while the wilderness habitat at Glastonbury Highlands was paved over.

The richness of the habitat and the opportunity to parlay this into a 3,000 acre natural area as other parcels become available, inspired The Nature Conservancy to pursue its protection. Large, contiguous land areas are needed by a number of species for long term survival, and the Glastonbury Highlands provides a rare opportunity to save a substantial wilderness habitat for future generations. \*

## The Nature Conservancy At Work

Nationally Connecticut

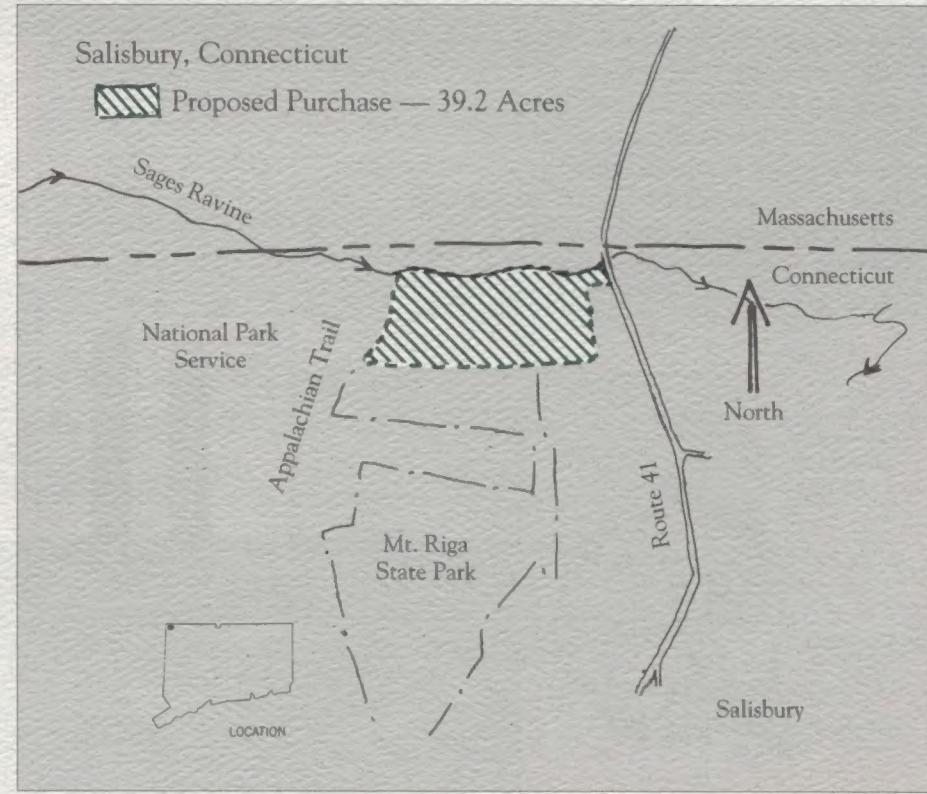
Total Projects	8,482	582
Total Acres Saved	3,813,884*	18,609
Acres Registered	—	5,094
Tracts Registered	2,547	141
Tradeland Tracts Received	918	13
Members	526,201	14,056
Corporate Associates	285	15

\* Includes Registered Properties



## Salisbury, Connecticut

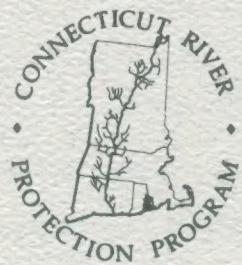
Proposed Purchase — 39.2 Acres





## Nature Conservancy Signs Option On Sharon Mine Mountain Property

At presstime, The Nature Conservancy had just signed an option to purchase 56 acres of critical habitat for \$305,000 within the Housatonic State Forest Preserve and adjacent to the Appalachian Trail section on Sharon Mine Mountain. This property, close to the E. W. Miles National Audubon sanctuary, will be acquired with private donations and public funds in cooperation with the Department of Environmental Protection, under the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust program. This site was an important missing link to over 5,000 acres of protected habitat.



## Bank Makes Sound Investment In The Environment

First Constitution Bank, headquartered in New Haven, has launched an extensive, multi-media campaign to support the quality of Long Island Sound called "Help Save Our Sound". To kick this effort off, the bank made donations of \$15,000 to both The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter and the Long Island Sound Keeper, two environmental groups the bank felt best represent the kind of organizations that can help make a difference in protecting their "sound-investment". Additional donations will be made as bank customers open new accounts.

The Conservancy was chosen because of its intensive Connecticut River Protection Program, since the river is the main estuary feeding into Long Island Sound. Les Corey, Executive Director, and Noreen Cullen, Director of Resources, met with bank officers and helped train the bank's 25 branch managers so they can encourage membership and support of the Conservancy's and Sound Keeper's missions.

Walter Miller, President and CEO of First Constitution Bank states, "Help Save Our Sound is a cause-related marketing program designed to help raise funds to support existing environmental programs and to educate our community about what we can each do to help save our Sound. In effect, we are offering a challenge to Connecticut's businesses and residents to help be part of the revitalization of the Sound".

Mr. Miller went on to say, "It is not enough for Connecticut residents to decry the current plight of this body of water. Government officials, corporations, individuals and their families, all must assume a responsible role in our Sound's short- and long-term rebirth".

*Help Save Our Sound* began on Memorial Day and will continue through Labor Day. We salute First Constitution Bank's leadership and commitment to Connecticut's natural environment. \*

## Connecticut River Protection Project 1986-1991 PROGRESS

CT Goal 1991	\$4.3 Million To Be Raised !!!	100 Tracts To Be Registered !!!	30 Sites To Be Protected !!!
* 2.8 in **1.5 in Private Public Funds Funds	90	30	25
3.3	80	20	15
2.8*	70	10	10
2.3	60		
2.0	50		
1.5**	40		
1.3	30		
	20		
	10		
			5
			12
			sites have received total or partial protection. This phase will go on past the end of the campaign as land purchased & gifts take the longest to come to closure.

# Connecticut River Marshland Protected

Nestled in the heart of Old Saybrook's Ragged Rock Creek Marsh is the "Ragged Rock", a granite dome which is the only highpoint in this salt marsh interior. Thanks to the generosity of Robert and Charlotte Saunders, a 5.9 acre parcel which includes the rock will soon be owned by the Conservancy and will be maintained as a nature preserve.

The Ragged Rock Creek Marsh, located on the western shore in the mouth of the Connecticut River, is one of Old Saybrook's wildlife treasures. A 300-acre salt marsh, the area provides important habitat for several of Connecticut's rare plant and bird species, including eastern prickly pear cactus, horned pondweed, osprey, and king rail. It is also an important stop-over point for migratory waterfowl.



The Conservancy will be acquiring this property through a combined gift of partial interest and sale of remaining interest by the Saunders. This is the Conservancy's first acquisition at Ragged Rock Creek under our Connecticut River Protection Program. The State of Connecticut owns approximately 200 acres in the marsh. Ragged Rock is across the Connecticut River from the huge marsh complex of the Great Island Marshes, almost all of which is permanently protected by the Conservancy, local land trusts, and the State of Connecticut.

## Devil's Den Receives Land Gifts

Devil's Den Preserve is still growing through the generosity of its friends. This past spring the preserve was fortunate to receive two new parcels of land, enlarging the preserve by 18.5 acres.

The larger parcel was bequeathed to the Conservancy by Mr. Robert Fuller. Bob Fuller was a supporter of the Den since its inception and was a good friend of the preserve. Most of the Den's regular visitors will be familiar with this tract; it is the Laurel Trail leading to Godfrey Pond which crosses the northwest corner.

The second parcel, an acre of wetland abutting the preserve, was donated by Glen and Jamie Forbes as they sold and moved from their Weston home. This wetland is part of the Perry Brook drainage area and is an important recharge zone for the Saugatuck Aquifer, in addition to being a valuable wildlife habitat.

The Nature Conservancy now protects 1,584 acres of undisturbed

forest-land within the boundaries of Devil's Den. However, other valuable parcels still remain to be added to the preserve before our work is done.

To help in this, the Lucius Pond Ordway Preserve-Devil's Den Committee has launched a capital campaign this past year to raise \$300,000 towards the purchase of two interior parcels. The protection of these parcels is key to ensuring the ecological integrity of the preserve will remain intact, preventing any development from occurring within the boundaries of Devil's Den.

If you would like to help us with this project, please send your donation to Devil's Den Preserve, P.O. Box 1162, Weston, CT 06883.



## Give Us Your Stocks – We Appreciate Them

Are you the target of a takeover? Why sell (or redeem) and pay capital gains taxes? Your gift of appreciated stock to The Nature Conservancy will fund natural area protection and contribute to the preservation of our planet's biotic diversity. And you will enjoy the tax advantages of a charitable gift.

It's easy. By working with banks and brokerage houses, the Conservancy's finance department can transact a gift of stock quickly and inexpensively . . . so your gift will have as much impact as possible.

Consider a gift of stock to The Nature Conservancy. For more information, please write to Noreen Cullen at the Connecticut Chapter Headquarters, 55 High Street, Middletown, CT 06457, or call her at (203) 344-0716.



From the northwest hills to southeastern Connecticut, activities are occurring on Conservancy lands. In addition to the traditional wardens, the Small Grants Program flourishes, universities utilize our lands as outdoor classrooms, state and federal cooperative projects continue and the Natural Diversity Data Base is augmented.

## Summer Protection

Each year, some of the Conservancy's coastal resources and inland sites are protected from inappropriate human use by a crew of devoted summer wardens. Although these areas are open to the public, use of the areas must be regulated. The wardens help to keep people off the dunes, away from nesting birds, and also educate the public about the importance of these areas.

At Griswold Point, warden Zee Sarr has been diligently monitoring piping plover and least tern nests. Her acute observations have allowed her to eliminate threats to the birds before any damage may be done. At least one successful piping plover nest and a re-nest have been carefully watched by Zee.

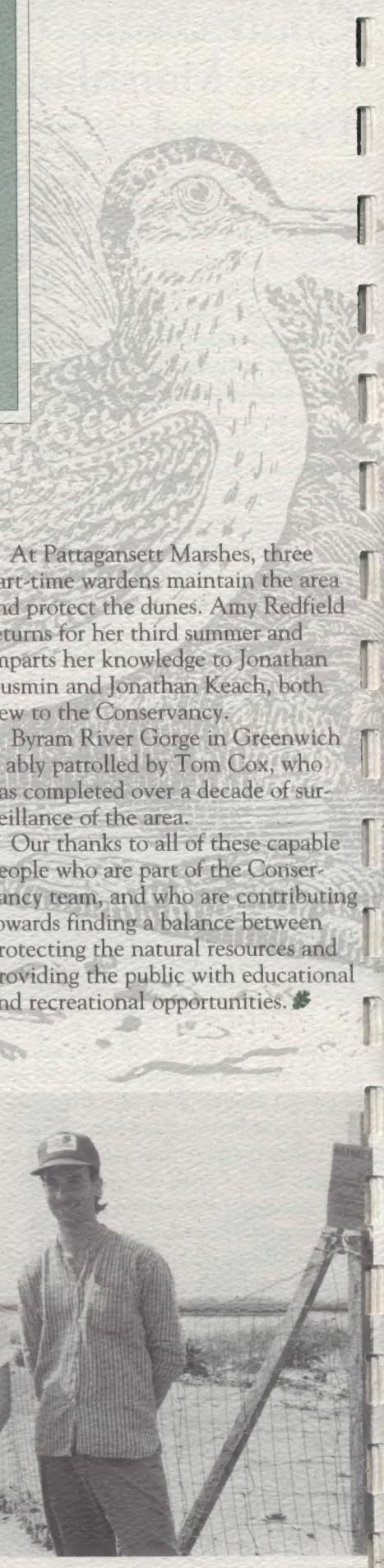
At Pattagansett Marshes, three part-time wardens maintain the area and protect the dunes. Amy Redfield returns for her third summer and imparts her knowledge to Jonathan Kusmin and Jonathan Keach, both new to the Conservancy.

Byram River Gorge in Greenwich is ably patrolled by Tom Cox, who has completed over a decade of surveillance of the area.

Our thanks to all of these capable people who are part of the Conservancy team, and who are contributing towards finding a balance between protecting the natural resources and providing the public with educational and recreational opportunities. ♦

Zee Sarr, (center) Griswold Point warden brings a B.A. from Drew University and extensive animal rehabilitation experience to her job at Griswold Point. Zee's position is funded, in part, by a grant from the Pequot Community Foundation. Jonathan Keach (left) is a biology major at Eastern Connecticut State University, while Jonathan Kusmin (right) studies at the University of Connecticut. ▶

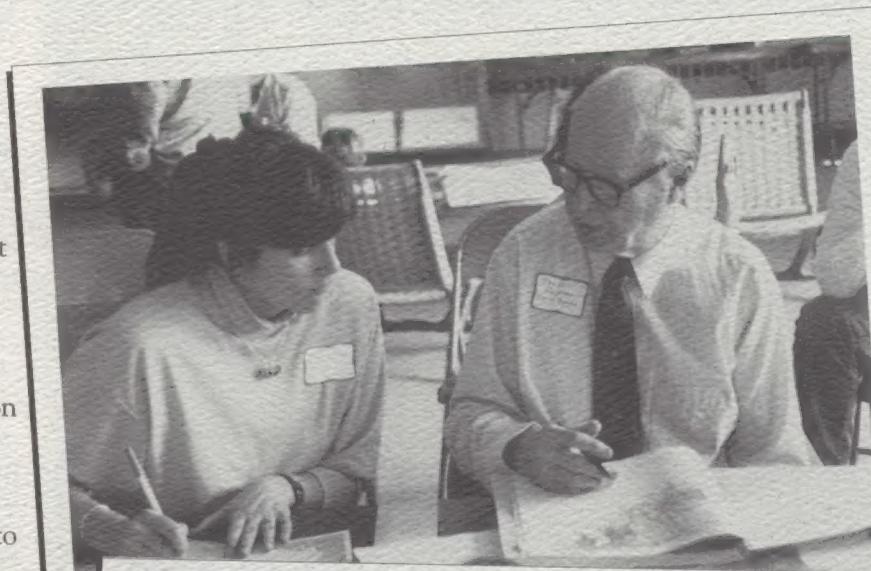
Amy Redfield (inset) is in her final year at Wesleyan. ▼





# Fairfield County Inventory

Dawn McKay, zoologist with the Natural Diversity Data Base staff at DEP, confers with Jack Falkner, one of 25 people who met at Connecticut Audubon Society's offices to convey their knowledge to the Fairfield County Natural Areas Inventory effort. The group of conservation officers, land trust members, Audubon Society representatives, university faculty and knowledgeable amateurs provided maps and information that highlighted important natural areas to be included in the Inventory. ▶



Jack White (right), from the national office of TNC, confers with Ken Metzler (left), ecologist from DEP and Juliana Panos, ecologist/team leader of FCI. Jack, a consultant to Conservancy offices conducting county-wide inventories, provides consistency in the methods learned from previous inventories. Tom Rawinski (not pictured), ecologist at TNC's regional office in Boston, also spent field time with the Connecticut Staff. ▶



The Fairfield County Inventory, in full gear this summer, is staffed by (left to right): Dave Norris, Grit Ardwin and Juliana Panos. Dave, a high school biology teacher, is studying the zoological components in the study area. Grit, a masters degree student at Southern Connecticut State University, is the botanist. Juliana, completing her PhD at the University of Connecticut, is the Team Leader and plant ecologist. ▶





Carolyn Mitchell, Bill Moorhead and Susan Bailey (left to right) are gathering community information at TNC's Beckley Bog in Norfolk.

## Beckley Bog Revisited

A unique feature of TNC's Walcott Preserve in Norfolk is Beckley Bog, a diversified ecosystem of lush fens and other unique plant life, some of which is uncommon to southern New England.

Within the past three decades a number of interesting changes have occurred among the bog flora, much of which may be attributed to increased beaver activity. In fact, an analysis of these floristic changes, in both the bog and adjacent non-bog wetlands, was the subject of a study conducted by Susan Bailey, Carolyn Mitchell (graduate students at the University of New Haven) and William Moorhead, III (an environmental analyst).

The study involved investigative fieldwork in conjunction with aerial photography, allowing for characterization and very accurate boundary delineation of the various wetland communities. This study should expand the existing floristic database and help to gain new insights into the dynamics of the little understood beaver-bog association.



## Sea Level Rise: A Clue?

Johan C. Varekamp, Assistant Professor, Earth & Environmental Sciences at Wesleyan University, has embarked on a unique study of our coastal sediments.

Varekamp, prompted by the discovery of three thin black layers of trace metals in the marshes from the Clinton area, is attempting to determine the nature of these deposits and its possible relationship to human-generated pollution. Two of the deposits pre-date colonization of New England and are strongly enriched in copper and to a lesser degree in iron and zinc. Wesleyan researchers led by Varekamp plan to extend their data base (by extending sampling) further along the Connecticut coast to determine if these black layers are regional or local features.

The results of this study may have profound implication for the understanding of sea level rise (gradual versus punctuated), as it is hypothesized that the chemical and faunal changes are both related to the sudden change in relative sea level.

Alternatively, the black layers may be related to lowering of the land during seismic events, and the black layers may then provide information on the periodicity of major seismic events in New England over the last few thousand years.



Johan Varekamp attempts to explain trace metals in marsh sediments and reconstruct historical changes in sea level.



## Plant Population Dynamics

For the second year, Martha Cushman is volunteering her botanical expertise to study rare plants in Canaan, CT. Martha has been carefully monitoring populations of plants for reproduction success, by marking individual plants, counting flowers and seeds, and noting any signs of animal predation.

This type of information, part of our biological monitoring program, will indicate if a population is unhealthy or declining. Ultimately it will provide us with the kind of information we need to better understand the biology of the plant so it can be managed appropriately. \*



Martha Cushman continues her analysis of rare plant reproduction in northwestern Connecticut.



## Stop Those Threats!

In recent years, Connecticut preserves have been impacted by inholdings, basically rights-of-way and/or abandoned town roads across our properties.

To determine the status of a number of these situations, Margaret Condon is working with the Connecticut Chapter to conduct a short-term land records research project.

Margaret, a long-time TNC member and a legal assistant, will highlight those preserves with potential problems and recommend preventative actions. With this information, the Conservancy hopes to clarify and strengthen our legal position prior to confrontation, thus avoiding costly and time-consuming litigation.

## A Search For Shrews

Since October 1988, Frank J. Dirrigl, Jr., through a Small Grants funding from The Nature Conservancy, has been surveying Conservancy land as well as state parks and other wildlife areas to try and verify the presence of the least shrew (*Cryptotis parva*).

Last seen in 1941 by George G. Goodwin, Connecticut is considered to be the north-eastern range limit for this small animal. Since an extensive survey has never been done to determine the status of the least shrew, this project will supply information that can help The Nature Conservancy protect rare and endangered animals, such as the least shrew, found in critical high salt marsh areas. \*

### Things Our Members Can Do For Us . . .

Clip and send any newspaper articles you see about The Nature Conservancy. We really are interested. Thanks.

Photo by B. Lapin

# Katherine Ordway Remembered

The Lucius Pond Ordway-Devil's Den Preserve Committee held a tribute to Katherine Ordway on May 13, 1989 at the Katherine Ordway Preserve in Weston. Friends and relatives of Miss Ordway gathered to celebrate her exceptional contribution to The Nature Conservancy and to conservation in general, both locally and nationwide.

Guest speaker at the event was William D. Blair, Jr., past president of The Nature Conservancy, and author of the soon-to-be published, *Katherine Ordway: The Lady Who Saved The Prairies*. Mr. Blair spoke of Miss Ordway's enthusiasm and commitment to land preservation, and noted that Katherine accomplished most of her conservation work during the last thirteen years of her life. She was rivaled only by John D. Rockefeller, Jr. as a private donor to natural area preservation in this country.

Katherine Ordway's collaboration with The Nature Conservancy resulted in the preservation of over 50 nature sanctuaries totalling hundreds of thousands of acres. Through her philanthropy and the Goodhill Foundation, which she created in 1959, critical habitat has been protected across the United States, ranging from maritime forests along the Atlantic, through prairies in the midwest, to rain forests in Hawaii. Locally, Miss Ordway provided for the establishment of the Lucius Pond Ordway-Devil's Den and Katherine Ordway Preserves, both in Weston where she lived until her death in 1979.

For information regarding Mr. Blair's forthcoming book on Katherine Ordway, please contact Barbara Shapiro, The Nature Conservancy, 1815 N. Lynn St., Arlington, Va 22209 or call (703) 841-4837. \*

## Thank Yous

A special thanks to Mrs. Jane Lane-Zucker for her generous donation of an Airstream recreation vehicle!

Former Chapter Chairman, Alex Gardner, deserves our wholehearted thanks for the gift of his Toyota Land Cruiser to TNC for land stewardship. Alex donated his vehicle to the Chapter, where it is greatly appreciated and will be well-utilized. Thank you Alex for your continued generosity.

Thanks are also extended to the over 30 volunteers, including members of the Hartford Sierra Club, who gathered at Bailey's Ravine at Ayers Gap to blaze a loop trail, install signs, clear trash and post boundaries. Our newest preserve is now ready for visitors!

## Our Wish List

The following items would be greatly appreciated:

- Slide Projector
- Office quality desk, preferably wooden with chair
- Easel
- Color television and VCR
- Medium-sized refrigerator
- Shovel
- Hand calculator

## From The Land \*

Published quarterly for the members of the Connecticut Chapter of The Nature Conservancy.

Designer: Pollard Design  
Contributing Writers: Connecticut Chapter Staff and Trustees

## A Fond Farewell To A Fellow Conservationist

The Connecticut Chapter was privileged to provide a fellowship for Paulina Ospina, Director of Development for Fundacion Natura in Bogota, Colombia. Paulina's conservation group is one of the 16 in Central and South America that The Nature Conservancy initiated and/or supports as an arm's-length partner. The Conservancy provides training, materials, expertise and funding to help Latin America conservation groups mature rapidly so they can become effective, and ultimately independent. Importantly, while The Nature Conservancy has had three decades to learn and refine effective land saving techniques in the U.S., the rain forests and other natural areas in Latin America cannot wait for conservation efforts to mature there if they are to be saved in time.

During her stay, Paulina gave several slide show presentations in Connecticut and helped raise some funds which will bring the Connecticut Chapter closer to the \$30,000 goal that has been set for the International Program. These dollars will pay for the internship efforts in Connecticut and throughout the Conservancy. At press time, gifts and pledges totalling half of the goal have been received.

Paulina was a bright spot in our year and we have missed her since her leavetaking on May 11th. We all learned a great deal about the challenges of conservation in Latin America and we hope to continue to support our conservation colleagues there. \*



# Welcome

Hello, my name is Susan Bahr. As a long-time devotee to the preservation of wildlife, I am particularly thrilled to join the Connecticut Chapter of The Nature Conservancy as the new Development Coordinator.

Personally, I am very committed to The Nature Conservancy and am excited about being able to contribute to the preservation of land for wildlife. I have not only been a member of The Nature Conservancy for the past 10 years, but I've also been a member of a variety of other conservation/nature organizations as well. I've done a lot of hiking, some trail work and have even had some of my nature photographs published. In fact, I believe most of my life has been spent in appreciation of the natural world. It is wonderful to know that I can, in some way, help to ensure that we all will be able to enjoy it for a long time yet to come.

Professionally, my career to date has been concentrated in the advertising business at Young & Rubicam Inc. in New York, where I was a vice president in charge of media development. I've spent the past thirteen years learning about how to market a variety of products, researching many different types of consumers, and working with a wide range of media vehicles. And, while not all of these skills will be transferable, I hope that my general knowledge of the communications process and my love of the natural world will further support The Nature Conservancy's efforts in Connecticut by motivating more contributors to this great cause.



**NOTE:** You must register in advance for hikes and workshops (each is limited to 15 participants unless otherwise noted). Please call the Devil's Den Preserve office (203) 226-4991 to register for any Devil's Den events.

September 9 (Saturday),  
10:30-12 Noon  
"For Kids Only" Walk  
Devil's Den Preserve, Weston

Join Westport teacher, Judy Hall, and discover another world inside Devil's Den Preserve. Limited to 15 children.

September 10 (Sunday), 9-11 a.m.  
Tree Identification Walk  
Katherine Ordway Preserve,  
Weston

Walk through the Preserve's forest and arboretum. Learn how to identify our native tree species. Leader, Fred Moore, Preserve Manager.

September 16 (Saturday),  
9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Connecticut Chapter  
Annual Meeting, Old Lyme

Plans are currently in development. Separate mailers will be sent to each member.

September 17 (Sunday), 1-3 p.m.  
Fruits & Fruit Biology  
Devil's Den Preserve, Weston

Why do oaks produce acorns, maples produce samaras and cherries produce cherries? We'll walk through the Preserve looking at different fruit types and talk about the different strategies of seed dispersal. Leader, Bob Unnasch.

September 20-23  
The Nature Conservancy  
National Headquarters & Board  
of Governors Annual Meeting  
Jekyll Island, Georgia

October 14 (Saturday),  
Fall Foliage Walk  
Katherine Ordway Preserve,  
Weston

Come for a walk through the Preserve during the most colorful time of the year. Leader, Fred Moore.

October 21 (Saturday), 1-4 p.m.  
Fall Foliage at Devil's Den, Weston

Come for a walk through Devil's Den during the peak colors. We'll talk about why some of our trees are deciduous and others are evergreen. Leader, Bob Unnasch.



October 22 (Sunday),  
Photographic Workshop at  
Devil's Den Preserve, Weston

This workshop will begin with a talk by Tom Chiapel, Director of the New England Photographic Workshops. Tom will talk about color photos and the best ways to capture our autumnal splendor. After lunch, Bob Unnasch will then lead a walk through the Preserve, highlighting some of its most photogenic areas. There will be a fee of \$25 for this program. Limited to 20 participants.

November 4 (Saturday), 8-4 p.m.  
Land Trust Service Bureau  
Convocation

This all day, hands-on conference will be of interest to anyone who wants more information on land preservation techniques. Contact Lesley Olsen at 344-9867 for further details.

November 11 (Saturday), 8-11 a.m.  
Botany Hike at  
Devil's Den Preserve, Weston

Stretch your legs before the holidays begin by taking a botanical hike through the late fall woods. Leader, Pam Goff.

November 14 (Tuesday), 9-11 p.m.  
"To Save A River" Slide Show  
At Elmwood Community Center,  
West Hartford

Leader, Les Corey. For further details contact The Nature Conservancy at 344-0716.

December 3 (Sunday),  
Early Winter at Katherine  
Ordway Preserve, Weston

Enjoy a winter's morning in the Preserve. Although the trees are dormant there is still a lot happening in the forest. Leader, Fred Moore.

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# It's Unanimous!

Passed unanimously by both the House  
 and the Senate and signed by Governor  
 William O'Neill! Connecticut has now  
 joined the 26 other states that have  
 their own endangered species laws.

This action was a top legislative priority of TNC, the Connecticut Audubon Society, DEP and the Non-harvested Wildlife Advisory Board. Specifically, the new law: (1) requires DEP to compile a list of threatened and endangered species and their essential habitats, (2) prohibits any person from willfully collecting, selling or destroying a listed species without the landowner's permission, (3) prohibits state agencies from destroying endangered or threatened species' essential habitats and (4) establishes a seven-member Natural Areas Preserve Advisory Committee, requiring the DEP Commissioner to acquire essential habitat areas, and remove the existing 10,000 acre cap on areas designated as natural preserves.

In addition, just prior to the mandatory General Assembly adjournment,

the state bond bill was enacted. Included in it are the following TNC and LCCC land conservation priorities:

- \$15 million for the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program
- \$5 million for municipal grants-in-aid
- \$8 million for the Farmland Preservation Program
- \$200,000 for land acquisition along the Connecticut River

Overall, we have won important victories in the 1989 legislative session. Your phone calls and letters made a big difference in securing legislators' support. Special thanks to all who have helped.

We can't stop here though, as other conservation legislation fared less well. Needing more work are two bills: (1) an amendment to PA 490, killed by the Judiciary Committee, that would have given municipalities notice when owners of land with preferential tax assessment as farm, forest or open space decide to sell, and (2) a land bank enabling legislation, allowing a municipality to establish a land acquisition fund which failed to emerge from the Finance Committee. 



(From left to right):  
 Rita Duclos (DEP),  
 Sherman Kent (CT  
 Audubon Society),  
 Mary Mushinsky (State  
 Rep.), Governor O'Neill,  
 Leslie Corey (TNC),  
 Leslie Carothers (DEP  
 Commissioner), Leslie  
 Mehrhoff (State  
 Biologist), Elaine  
 Korenkiecicz (DEP).

**From the Land**   
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